

U O M #14

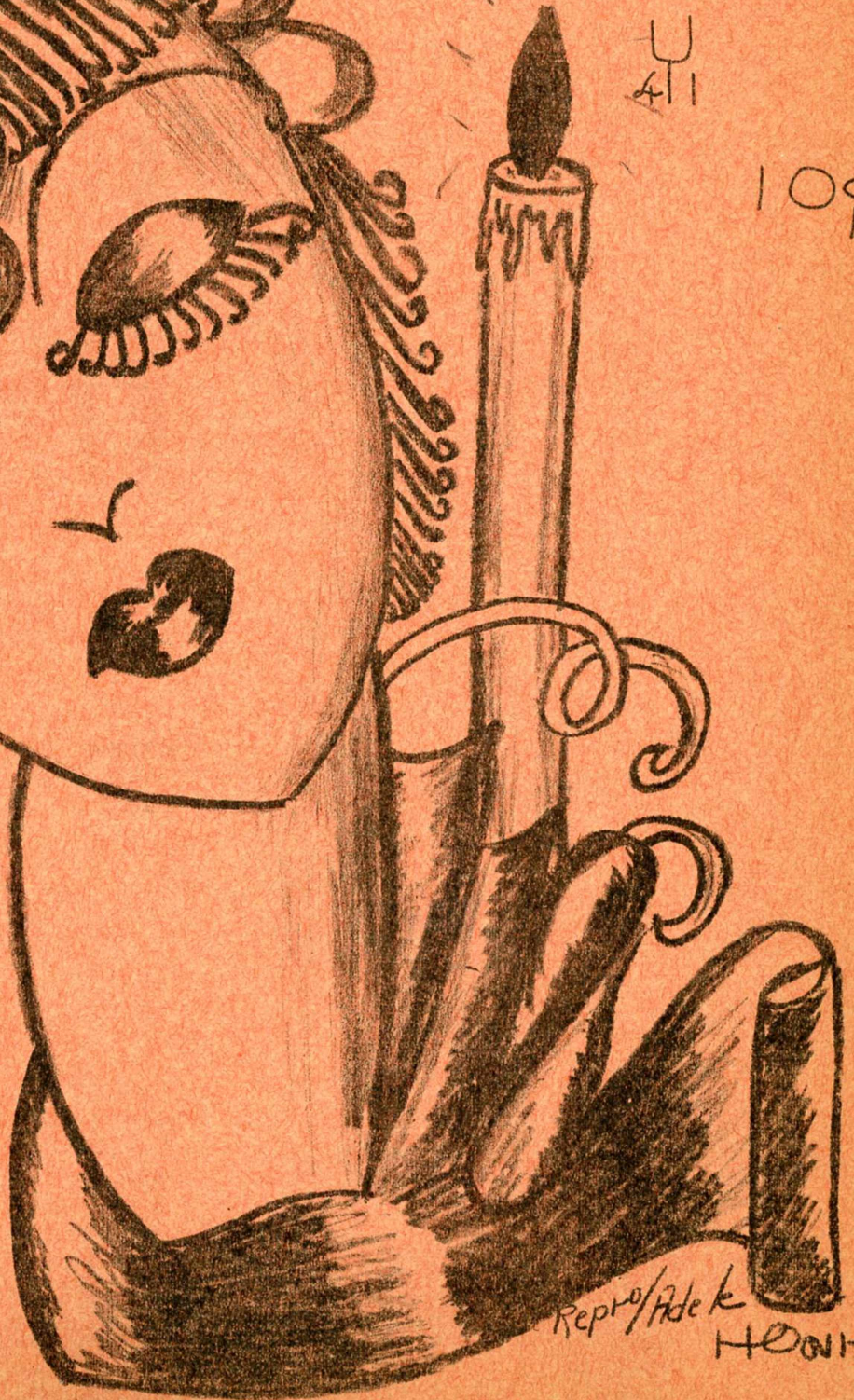
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U
411

10¢

Black be nimble
Black be quick
Black jump over
the candle stick

BLACK Flame



Repro/Adelk
HONIE

COVER: Art, S Howard Lowe & 'Adele'; Verse, "Dawn
of Fame" by FJ Weinbaum...Cover

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PUBLISHT MONTHLY AT BX 6475 METROPOLITAN
STATION, LOS ANGELES CAL, BY FORREST J
ACKERMAN & MOROJO. 10c, \$1.20 YRLY.
ADVERTISEMENTS ON ARRANGEMENT.

SO MUCH ADVERTISING WE DON'T FEEL WE LEGIT'LY COUD CALL THIS SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES #5

ARC COVER, this ish, features the scientific fanomenon of black lite & we warn all our vombicorrespondents in advance we will censor any puny puns of the nature of "I wax enthusiastic over your cover" or "Previous covers didn't hold a candle to this one." Well, guess that about covers the cover. Except--in explanation--this is NOT the cover, the Paule (pronounced Pauly) pic, playd up last month. The Petty (!) Picture by Paule (a diminutive damozel who draws ohs & ahs on her personal apearance aswelas her artwork, in consequence of which she has to be fast on her footwork) replaces the fotograficover, giving U, in Esquire style, the pic much larger. Yes, we ran off xtras, which will be maild to U rolld at 5c apiece. The plate from which our cover was run, with all riting but Black Flame removed, is available as a Collector's Item for 75c ppd. Just think: U will have an Item even Ackerman doesnt! While--breathless news for the boys in the upper-money brackets--the original Vomaiden (size 10" x 14"!) will go to the hi-est bidder! This red-hot ball-of-fire for the wall of your den, uniquely preserved on aluminum! Line forms at Bx 6475 Met Sta, LA, fellows; so don't delay, make your offers today. Bids must be rcvd by May 10th.

PS: Now rnt U ashamed of yourself for suspecting we were going to run a thermometer stuck in the sun, or something, when we said our cover (which became the insert) woud make the mercury rise???

A BEE-yew-tee-ful Cover by Paul on our June issue. Followd in July by a striking portrait of a famous science fiction character, by an English artist. August offering tentatively is by Mooney, another Vomaiden. Vom is intrested, however, in clever or beautiful artwork, suitable for covers or inserts, from fans.

IS THERE AN ANGEL IN THE AUDIENCE?

Wanted at once: Fan to whom to dedicate our next issue (one with Paul cover). Only qualification: Must have \$5. If the creature exists, hi! How'd U like to buy a life-sub to our pub? We also will present U with the autograft dummy. And the Paul plate!

Kara Kanerli: Pardonu min--mil fojojn--mi petas, pro la ellaso de unu 'e' en via nomo. Mi estas desoleca. Forsto.

Dear Milty: If U care what we think of people who drink--particularly fans--don't do it. Especially so much of it in the fan press. Sincerely, Moroyo & Forry, who are not necessarily Holier Than Thou, but frankly don't care for the mikrosweetness (& lite) kind of character, particularly when not fictitious but a living person, a very likeable living person & very worthwhile in many respects.

LONG LIVE LITHO!

It now seems the ups & leaving of the Academy by Ackerman & Emsheimer & the subsequent formation of Assorted Services, spells not the end of the Litho Era in Vom, previously predicted as an unhappy possibility, nay probability, but rather means the Beginning of the Litho Era for ALL Fandom! Your attention has been drawn to our cover, drawn by young Howie Lowe of NYC. U can have a cover like ours for \$1.85! Yes, fan ed, that's what we said: Not them \$5 quotations U been hearing about, like Brad's Bokover on Fufa; nor yet a full 50% slash; but a mere buck eighty-five for 100 copys of your cover, reproduced by the new proto-J (aided & abetted by her husband)--Adele--in the amazing new mimicrayon process. Pal, that price even includes the paper! Your choice of color on cover stock, with black ink--or sepiatone at no xtra charge. That aint all. We pay postage on mailing U your covers! U saw original lithicrayon fantasy art by Adele first in Shangri-Li Zombie. This gal has a native drawing ability & is developing a flair for fantasy--fast! From rockets to Rockettes; rayguns, robots, ultramodern metropolises & e.t. monsters. One or the other, we'll give U a "repro/Adele" of your Wright, knight, Bronson, Bok or whom-have-U, better'n U ever coud hope for in mimeo; or an Original Adele, drawn from your instructions--paper & litho & postage, 100 for \$1.85! Lou Goldstone's lined up for mimicrayon in his next Fantasia...now let's forge rite ahead! Who'll be next? Fanfare? Polaroid? Specula? Sun Spots? Southern Star? Our card inclosed--our mailbox open w i d e.

PS: There IS truth to the rumor several local fans oferd \$10 to meet the model...

Yecoeds.

D.B. Thompson

"The Salt of Sage Creek" doth speak from
2303 U St, Lincoln Nebraska. "Salutations,
Fan et Fanette: Hize cover, on VOM 12;

4 E really got off to a good start in the world. And look at him now! Oh well, he's young yet,---maybe he'll get back on the track yet. --- Most interesting feature of VOM these days is the constant flow of letters from England. I even staggered through most of the letter in that curious hodge-podge called 'Esperanto.' --- 'Art Widner sane?' queries the Contents page. Well, he admits being a fan, doesn't he? The conclusion is obvious. --- Reminds me, for no reason that I can think of, to thank you for the very neat card which accompanied the New Year Issue. Reason I didn't mention it previously is that I didn't find it until two or three weeks ago. (Which would be mid-Mar...& a fine time to be finding an MYCard!) --- To Russell Chauvenet : How about a round of Table Tennis at the Denvention? (Yeah; they have heard of the game in Denver; several Denver players competed, for a very brief time, it is true, in the Missouri Valley Open in Omaha in February.) And, if Gilbert, who innocently calls the game 'ping pong,' is there, we'll make him eat a Parker ball.---If you'll look under the sticker at the top of this page (Member national fantasy fan federation) (as if you haven't already!) you'll find three li'l dimes. I know your subtle little insert suggested FIVE dimes, but the sticker is only long enough to hold three. --- Several other things I might comment on. For instance, there is 4E's letter in the current (June) STIRRING SCIENCE STORIES. Heh heh!"

"Dear darling Co-eds,

to you, and quite a bit of material that I do not know at -- that 'at' should be 'with' -- what to begin. Your sending of the Hymn to Satan and The Science Fiction Collaboration to me was appreciated by me. Yes, even if I do pay for them, I still appreciate receiving them. Also, please accept my many many thanks for the 'Vomdum # 12'. It is very interesting and those hurriedly written 'words' provide me with something to pass my time away. Your writing reminds me of mine, but yours is not as bad as mine is. "Once upon a time, I made up my mind -- no, I didn't create matter from nothing; I'm not Paul's Mastermind. Once upon a time, I determined that I would comment upon an issue of Vom. That issue was followed by another and the another by yet another until the twelfth issue was issued. So I'm finally going to comment on the number twelve issue of Vom. " Is that picture on the cover one of Forrie's physical or mental body? (Y, my mental, ofcourse...er, what am I saying?) Your contents page is still good, but not as funny and good as it once was. I notice that you use fmz as the abbreviation for fan magazine. Now, as you know, I think that I started it all with 'fanag' which was soon followed by someone else introducing 'fanzine' and someone else introducing 'fmz'. However, 'fmz' is the abbreviation for fan magazine and 'fanzine' and 'fanag' are supposed to be words meaning fan magazine. Of the two words meaning fan magazine, 'fanzine' is the better because it is more phonetic (euphonious?) and will not be mistaken for a combination of the two words 'fan' and 'mag'. Although, I still believe I arrived at the only proper combination for 'fan' and 'mag'. 'Fanzine' is the proper word for a combination of 'fan' and 'magazine', while 'fmz' is, as I said, the proper abbreviation for 'fan magazine'. Now, I've said my say about the various methods of writing 'fan magazine', and if I still feel in the future as I now do about it, I shan't say anymore about the forms for fan magazine. If you watch in the future, I believe that you will see me use all three forms which mean fanzine. " The above paragraph, has in a way tried to show that I am not inconsistent in my use of the various forms for fan magazine. You are inconsistent. You do not date evry letter. 'Tis a minor matter; but, still, it irks me. (Item a., evry letter recvd by us is not dated by its sender; 2dly, we bother about including dates only when we bliev they have some bearing on the letter. Dates, at times, can be quite important; at those times we publish them. Your letter & Don Thompson's we left undated as we could see no necessity for the information that yours was ritten Apr 9, DBT's on the 10th. Siehst du?) For D.B. Thompson's information: I did not hint or write in a sarcastic vein when I 'gave my interpretation of his initials'. I didn't give my interpretation, but asked what his initials meant. I added the words 'Delightful Euddy' as a slightly amusing after-thought. At the time of writing that question I did not know for what the 'D' and 'B' stand; and I still don't know what the 'B' stands for. In a slight way, I admire him, and should be

very pleased to meet him. The reason I asked the question about his initials was because of my insatiable desire to know everything about a fan who interests me. Thompson did and still does interest me. I liked his story in a recent Astounding and would give it about a nine in the one-to-ten rating system. "When do we get black ink? If green ink costs more, why not use black ink and reduce the expenses?" (Gemma friends of Ellay S. Effess' Mimi O'Graf will continue to come to U drest in green. Recently raised at a meeting of the imagi-natives of Shangri-LA was the question of an ink-change but retention of the now-traditional color was voted so verdant will remain your Voice, Polaris, Novacious, Shangri-LA, Damn Thing, etc. FMZ Digest, Specula & other Astra Pubs are brot out in black because publisht on a privately ownd machine.)

This is a Doodle Duck found
on the table at Clifton's
after a meeting of the
imagi-natives. We
do not noe
who drew
it.



Joe J. Forten

sez "Let's go semi-monthly". 1836 - 39 Ave, Oakland, Cal, is the adres of this pal. "Dear Haggy, GOSH! WOW! BOY OH BOY! THE MOSTA THE HOTTA! Hice, as der

fuehrer would say. But, Folks: that's a very nice cover paper. Heh! Your contents page gets better each issue. Betcha that Art is happy -- he's sort of a plug-nutty guy anyway. "Looking over the latest news gets me to wondering if a fan is ever going to publish a newsy about Stfandom and make it stick (Fantasy News excluded as that's classed with UNKNOWN & STIRRING FANTASY). U noe, evn tho so meny carikatoors r publisht ant Ray Bradbury, I styl sort of think he's 1/2way gud luking. I slaved over that sentence, but, then, I slaved trying to convince myself of that. "I think Phil Schumann ought to stick to the ungodly English like the rest of us poor creatures. His Ackermanese is not so good. Odd, isn't it, that there is a fellow by the name of Arthur Wm Bernal in Oakland who is a fantasy fan. S'help me, I'll find that Carl Berke of Berkeley unless he isn't real. Maybe a local is pulling a John Reitrof, eh? (Penote on back of envelope: "Tsk, Tsk- Carl Berkeley definitely a nom de plume." "I made a little mistook, tho, 2j, which may alter your outlook: It seems the name is speld Purk. Efor, it wasnt showd to me--I only heard. 4sd) -- Hey, Tuck: if you'll start publishing LeZ once more we would all be happy up here. I hear that you're going to do a couple issues, so why not make it regularly bimonthly or something. Now I know why I'll never be a number one fan! Forry sends three dimes off for the fun of it. That lets me out. Tucker sends the dimes back! See how you've got me all tied up? According to the final results, SaM ended up in third position; now I know I'm a hopeless case for I just can't imagine myself following in his footsteps. "This is the Fishy Network signing off over a ghost-to-ghost spook-up. Pause for station identification while I insert 20 cents for this copy plus one for my girl." We myt say Hlo to the lilady by name; but, then, we never Violate a confidence.

ROTHY MILTMAN, 1730 P NW, Wm/DC: "Dear People: At the office I have a colossal amount of work waiting for me to burrow through; at school I got my analysis of lead in brass rejected, and my copper electrolysis came out lousy, so I have to do about 20 hours work over, and I have an exam coming up Wednesday, and it rained today, and my pants, which we just pressed two days ago, are now perfectly cylindrical, and



"Shows Milty Brooding-- Trying to think Of something To say To VoM. The stuff in The bottle Is only port. And very good, too. Port, imported from Oporto, Portugal, \$1.69 per fifth. Disgusting, isn't it?" (Definitely. FandM.)

think he can do it, but the loser has to write a novel. That will be a horrible task, for the loser, don't forget, will be too lazy to want to do it. " I could show you a picture of Del Rey's room that would put Tobacco Road to shame. It's not that he doesn't know any better, or can't do any better. He's just too lazy to bother. Anyway, that's his story. I think he keeps his room cluttered up just so that his mind might be uncluttered. Laws of compensation, or something. (G, I like that latter explanation. Think I'll have to use it on the relatives. Only thother day, Art Joquel said to me, in one of my dens, "Forry, this room frightens me. I look around at everything, and feel like at any moment the whole place is going to burst.") " I thought that science fiction fans were the dizziest people in existence, but my faith in them is sadly shattered after reading Strictly from Hunger, by S.J. Perelman, or is it J.S. Perelman. Perelman is the king of the field of dementia praecox literature. The Angeleno humorists(?) who put out Sweetness and light, Mikros, etc., ought to take a lesson our two. " Doesn't Singleton write in a lovely rhythm? (Pardon the tense; it was thoughtless, but on second thought let it stay there.) " Oh, hell, I'm not going to sit here and try to think of something else to say. I've got other letters to write. Where do you guys get off, thinking you're the only meteors in space?"

A new 'gate by the name of
Rich Wait e pens from Barker NY: "I have been hearing about 'Voice of the Imagi-Nation' so much lately that I have finally broken down and wept out enough to pay for it. " How long have you been using the fo-netic spelling that some of your letters are written in? (Ni onto 5 yrs now.) I just wondered becuz I used something similar under the pen name of Delerium Tremens some 8 years ago when I was the editor (for a very short time) of a movie fan club publication. It takes too much concentration for me, now, to write very much that way. I s'pose high school English teachers are too be blamed for that, they always picked on me. Anyway, I'm a farmer now so I have very little time for such stuff. I read a lot of stf and fantasy mags tho, and enjoy most of the stories. Of course there are good - bad and indifferent, but I s'pose it has to be so with s.f. as with everything else."

Another newcomer is LLOYD CONNERLY of POBox 276,
McKittrick, Cal, inspired to rite upon receipt of a foto of Mirta Forsto in 1939
(Mycon) futuristicostumery. "Estas mi psychic, ad estas mi psychic? (Kamarado
Kanerli is studying Esperanto which he intersperses with English.) -- "La foto
vi sendis mi conforms closely kun la mental image mi have had de vi kaj Morojo.
From la foto, mi would say ke vi kaj Morojo have la physical, mental kaj spiritual

one of these afternoons I am going to take time off to have a nervous breakdown. But until that happens I shall be happy. For Voice of Imagination has arrived. Was also made very happy upon receiving, the other day, a copy of Fantast from England, containing a reprint of a letter of mine in VoM. It looks like everytime I use the Saroyan style I get reprinted. Well, it made Saroyan the literary sensation of the country. I guess it isn't bad even when I use it. " Horrors! Tucker has exposed me. Now the FBI will surely be on my trails. I thought I had given them the slip by moving without leaving a forwarding address, as a result of which Walt Daugherty is mad at me for not answering a letter he wrote me last May asking to join the FAPA. The story is long and complicated, but at the next LASFL meeting, won't you talk nice to him, tell him that all is forgiven, and that he is welcome into our fold. " The above paragraph is full of at least three errors, but I am too lazy to re-write it. I wonder if Lester Del Rey is winning his bet already. He says that he is going to make me as lazy as he is in two years. Or, to put it less confusedly, in two years I am supposed to be as lazy as he is now. I don't

qualities de la Youth de Tomorro. Mi need more de via type now, for upon vi kaj la other free-thinking, progressive geniroj de nia generation depends, in a large measure, la sukcesa establishment today, de la mondo de tomorrow. " Mi vidas by la foto ke, en addition to being an Esperantisto, Foĵak estas also a Technocrat. (Ne, Lojd; mi ne estas Teknokrato. If U will examine la emblemon closely, vi will see it to be a monad in reverse!) -- Mi ne know much pri either de these movadoj, sed la little mi do know meets kun mia approval--except unu statement made by la Technocrats, al la effect ke ili estas against Democracy, kaj unu made sur pago 26 de 'The Esperanto Grammar,' en kiu la Sennacieca Asocio Tutmonda (Society Anational Transterritorial, of which Morojo has been appointed World Administrator "for the duration", publishes organ of the organization--Safano Bulteno--sample copy of which may be obtained from the w.k. Box for 10c.) endorses Socialism. Mi may as well go on record as being unequivocally opposed to Fascism, Naziism, Communism kaj kio passes por Socialism en la mondo de today. (For future reference, this opinion as of 30 Mar 41.) " Parolas de Socialism, have you read 'Looking Backward,' de Edward Bellamy? Ĝi estas la best thing de ĝia kind mi have found. Bellamy describes kio mi hope kaj believe will be (kun modifications) la economic system de tomorrow --a system kiu even today estas knocking por admittance ĉe la door de a confused kaj disillusioned mondo. " Sed to get back al la foto. Mi like la get-up Foĵak estas wearing. Ĝi estas reminiscent de Paulo. Kun a different background vi might be about to announce al la Tutmonda Council de Technicians ke la first U-235 atomic power plant has just been completed kaj estas ready por dedication. Au perhaps vi have just returned from Mars en la bona ship 'Red Star' kaj estas being decorated por via brilliant achievement en being la first to establish amika relations kun la inhabitants de tio planet. Kaj Morojo? Well, kio does Foĵak do en kiu ĝi ne help? Kio could li do sen her help? " Let nin assume ke--given a completely phonetic lingvo--ĝi estas possible to construct a machine ke will print la spoken vorto--a machine en kiu ĝi estas only necesa paroli en order to have kio vi diris automatically typed en la characters de la lingvo. Could Esperanto be used in such a machine? " Persone, mi kredi ĝi could, sed as an Esperantisto vi estas better qualified to pass judgment sur tio point ke mi estas. La machine probably would have esti equip'd kun some means de synchronizing la frequency response range de la auditions (aŭ something corresponding al them), kiu actuate aŭ control la characters de la alphabet, to conform kun la user's vibratory range por each de la 34 sounds de la lingvo; kaj even tiam la uzadisto (?) (uzanto) would have paroli carefully kaj distinctly. " La granda difficulty, however, ne estas en building la machine, sed en finding a completely phonetic lingvo. Estas Esperanto such a lingvo?" (99% Sole snag we can think of is that Esperanto a has same sound as Esperanto t followed by s but dare say this difficulty could be eliminated provided U provided the maŝino U mention.) A later letter: "If mi had read la latest issue de Vom antaŭ mi finished mia lasta letero al vi, mi could have written this ĉe la same tempo, sed mi ne so here iras. " Mi ne like to discourage vi, Foĵak, sed la practice de writing sur la backs de malnovajn leterojn, ktp., ne will get vi anywhere. Mi have been doing ĝi por jaroj kaj still mi have neither famo aŭ fortune. " Kiam mi sidi down to write a letero kaj ne have a very clear idea de kio mi want to write, as estas la case kun this letero, mi always draft mia letero sur malnova papero. This letero was drafted sur la back de letero from an Arizona ora miner. An Oregon prune grower, The Church of Light kaj la Calhoun Realty Co. (date de Decembro 13, 1935), contributed la stationery sur kiu mia lasta letero al vi was drafted. " Via experience de 'burning the noon tube at cathode & anode,' as via put ĝin, estas malnova fabelo kun mi, sed unfortunately mi ne vidi a way to better mia position ĉe la present tempo."

stationery on
So Norwood,
for the



still riting on the good old S-FA
2 Feb 41 rote from 23 Farnley Rd,
London SE25: "I am deeply indebted
constant supply of fan-magazines

sent this way, which, together with those I receive still from Olon Wiggins, are my only current contact with my beloved field of fantasy fandom. " You once sent me a small parcel of Vom to pass on to various British fans, and these were duly delivered by some means or another, which I trust was satisfactory. " I do not know if you are wanting any Britisher to write articles for some one of the many fan-magazines in which I know Forrie interests himself, but if you should, and you will let me know, I would be pleased to fill the gap I realise has been opened by

the calling-to-the-colours of Ted Carnell and other British fan-writers who were featured regularly in the USA fan-magazines. I would add, on my own behalf, that I fully realise that I cannot ever aspire to the heights reached by those writers whom America already knows, but I might, with not a little luck and some diligence, go some little way towards keeping Britain and her pre-war, growing body of fandom in the eyes of their cousins across the sea. I will, at any rate, do my best, should you want it! (Here's a noble offer, Yankeeeditors! Nufsed.) "Well, this wretched business in Europe will come to an end one day, y'know, and we will be of real help to you folks, our friends and associates in USA. Until that day we shall have to be content to look on, though perhaps a little enviously, whilst you carry on the good work! " My hearty good wishes to all my friends in California, particularly to Morojo, Russ Hodgkins, Art Barnes and your esteemed self, Forrie."



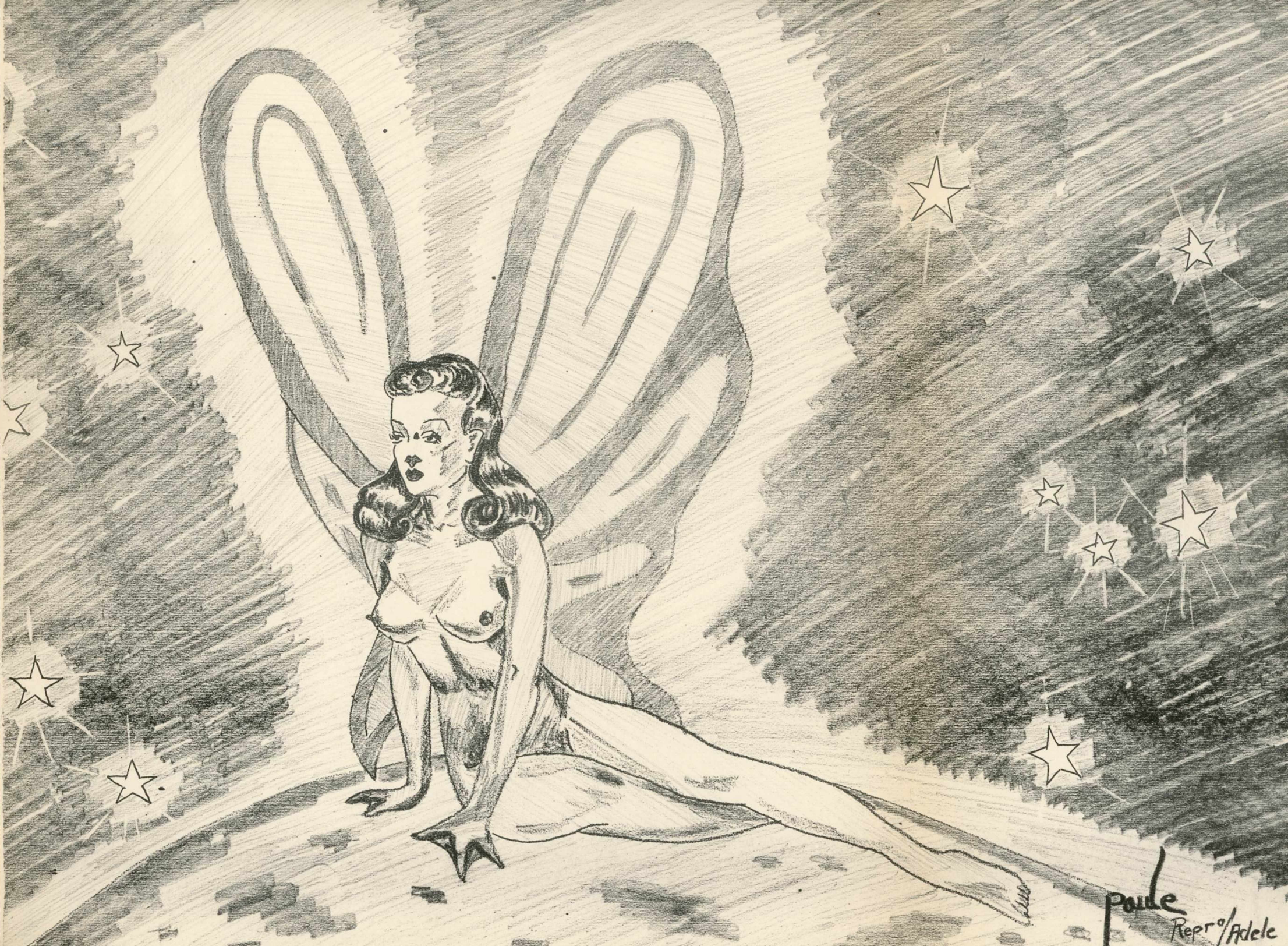
Looky, looky, looky, it's MR & MRS KUTTNER: "A brief word of appreciation for the assorted focze you so kindly sent us. Kat divided her attention at breakfast between brioches and fan mags, and, between hasty gulps of bourbon, I peered over her shoulder. I note a curious phenomenon. It has been a long time since I saw a fan mag. (Letter dated 15 Apr 41) They've changed quite a lot--technically much improved, with a great deal more attention paid to format. Some of the stuff was extraordinarily well done. " As for the contents, I have only lately learned to read. I was charmed by the guy who emulated e. e. cummings in the lower-case spelling of his name. Just to be different, I think I'll sign my copy henceforward as HENRY KUTTNER. Or, perhaps, hEnRy KuTtNeR. Or maybe HenrY KuttneR. Nothing like variety, say I. In any case, Catherine and I both thank you very kindly for sending the material, and we love you devotedly. My devoted spouse is at present typing rapidly --God knows what--at her desk, and I have just finished brooding over the uncharted mysteries of the New York state income tax return. The Necronomicon had nothing on that. The hell with it, I say. " All those fan mags gave me a sad feeling of nostalgia. Kat agrees with me that we should head west pronto. It's all quite indefinite as yet, but living in an apartment, in a city of eight million people, is a definitely artificial environment. Both of us remain baffled by subways, New Yorkers, stores, life, and New York. It is our intention, anon, to drive west and find a dwelling around Hollywood where one can see the horizon. Perspective is inverted here. Buildings get taller, farther away. " There's little news. Catherine started a Northwest Smith yarn, but hasn't finished it yet. I sold Unknown a couple of new ones, A GNOME THERE WAS and THE DEVIL WE KNOW. But both of us would much prefer to wander into Clifton's and see Russ hurling his gavel at Bradbury, Fred reading his Bible, and Mr. Ackerman reclining drunkenly under the table. Allah grant that happy event will take place soon. (Alas, Allah's changed now. Hodgkins, long-since replaced as Director, no longer hurls the gavel at anyone, for he no longer attends meetings. Nor does Shroyer show up but tis said instead Fred has taken to the wines & sweet adelines. While Ackerman--surprisingly!--has straitend up, sworn off the egg-spiked dubl-rich choelit malts & been elected Director!) -- We both love you devotedly."

A letter from ELMER PERDUE, undated, believed rcvd last Dec, crowded & recrowded out due to length (5 elite-type pgs), at last presented, at least in part. Perdue postscripted: "I wrote much more than you should be expected to print, for the obvious reason that I'm no competent critic of my own writings. So cut this down to size, please, leaving only the more clever and interesting bits." We hope we have succeeded: "Vombicoones:

"I wonder what to say in this, my return to Voice after a year's absence. . . .

"Most important thing first--a request for correspondents. (617 B St. Rock Springs, Wyo) Rock Springs, tho a town sincere enough in its way, still has no attractions. Precisely as one would characterize Philadelphia as a continuous slum, so would one characterize Rock Springs as a continuous red-light district. So for me, there's nothing to do but write letters and wear out deck after deck of cards playing solitaire, then tearing each deck quite neatly in four parts after its usefulness has departed.

"So if any of you dopes feel like helping to ease my loneliness--all letters gladly received and as cheerfully answered. I'll guarantee a minimum of four pages--and I won't even draw the



poile
Repr°/Adele

line at Bev. Brown.

"Latest VoM (with 'engraved' cover) to hand and now read to pieces. Comments:

"1. You publishers are rather clever people. I quite look forward to the LA blitz that I may know you as you are. At the Chicon, circumstances were not propitious (cliche no. 1) and I could gain no idea of what you're really like. Mr. Ackerman, I believe I have you solved; Miss Douglass, I've solved you as well--and you won't like the solution (Do U mean 'Douglas'? I'm glad U have her figured out. That's more than I've been able to do. & how do U noe she wouldn't like it. Let's have the lowdown! If it's too low to be publicized what about a private letter? --Morrojo); and the third--Miss Pogo--I'm still in a fog after a year's correspondence.

"2. Miss Lupé Amador is a woman after my own heart. Rat-face! And I've met Ackerman. . . .

"3. Mr. Fortier's SF encyclopedia has been anticipated. During an evening with Juffus, I read & enjoyed stencils--half a dozen or more--of his dictionary of Fandom. Modelled after Samuel Johnson's notorious Dictionary, and includes what modern dictionaries do not--the writer's personal opinion. And I loved it.

"8. We now arrive at the subject of the Pro-Scientists. I feel honestly sorry for Raymond, whom I met at the Filco. I talked to the lad; while so talking, Milt came up, saying: 'Don't bother with him, Jimmy; Mr. Van Houten has an extremely narrow mind.' Raymon then wondered why I opposed his motion (that the Philco go on record against anti-Science) if I were in sooth a fan, and my counter was, simply, that I am a funtast. Ray then shok his head in disgust, saying: 'I don't want to look at you. I can't even see you.' I studied him rather intently, if I may say so, then left sadly, taying to Milt the while 'You were right, Milt; he is markedly dolichocephalic.'

"The pro-scientists are wrong; dead wrong. They contend that, since science has contributed to the enlightenment of the world, we must not disparage it. But! enlightenment is not, and cannot be, purely physical. It must of necessity be mental. One does not achieve enlightenment just by those all-too-obvious things science gives--transportation, mechanical creature comforts (cliche no. 2.) A ninety-mile speed in the new 41 Cadillac enlightens, and can enlighten, no one. (But it can be fun, ~~self-censored~~)

"10. As to Mr. Ackerman being a slan-gelene--that's an outright lie. I'd have found him ten years ago of so. But perhaps he's tendrillless--if so, maybe the LA blitz come June would be inadvisable. (Did it ever occur to U that praps the reason U didnt sense 4e 10 yrs ago was that he wasnt born yet. See Heck Koenig for statistix to prove Ackerman only 2 yrs old today.)

"About Slan--I was disgusted with the ending. And similarly with the remainder of we Washington Worry-Worts. (Hi, Juffus!). Van Vogt attained genius when he murdered Kathleen; and it was so saddening that she was revived!

"11. The reversed letter at the end surprized me. I only had to slow down to about two hundred words a minute to read it.

"12. There have been many things in earlier VoMs that passed unmentioned during my years' absence from these pages. Among them was a self-drawn picture of Milt. I am always amused by his self-portraits--such broad shoulders as they have!

"A comment to a letter of Warners, in re dating letters (we deny we ever redate 'em!), brings forth your answer that you'd rather date their senders. Well, Pogo, how about it?

"15. Good old Perri! I met her at the tower; was rather badly beaten in a chess game with her. And did she ever hop up and down with glee when I told her of the prizes her costumes had taken! She upset the board twice (odd, isn't it, that I was close to a win both times?) She's quite lovely; has a bit of a mind; but it's too bad she was taken in by the Futurians. With me, now. . . .

"Listen, if you putter-outers feel like having a really illustrated letter section for a change, I can and will oblige. Just tell the number of prints you want of

each (Elopo refers to pix snapt at Elarcy's Tallwood Plantation), and I'll donate them to you. I've got Milty playing with blocks, (say no more--let's have that one!)

"The time and effort spent in printing will be more than repaid as I think of the time and effort you'll spend pasting them in place, and chuckle merrily to myself. . . . (150 prints, thanx. O, dear; we inadvertently have reveal'd our secret circulation figures! Not, ofcourse, that any fan'll bliev 'em. But it helps impress our advertisers, without whose between 14 & 15s' worth of advertising--ie, 1--each month we never could afford to offer U such expensive issues, which really rnt so expensive when U get rite down to consider how cheaply Assorted Services now can litho for U...)

"17. I have nothing to say on the Alex. Roberts question. I outgrew his stage some seven years ago.

"19. I love your Bok covers.

"20. Your Chicon jingle reminds me I turned out a couple of my own..both unprintable. And something about meeting Acky, Morojo, & Pogo, when you take a trip to Chicogo. But it stank."

Par Avion via Lisbonne et Clipper!
 "Months since I wrote you last... if you ever
 my letter of November 19th, (publisht #13)
 was sent from Paris through an american friend going to Switzerland. T'was no fault of mine if I did not write again. " But things happen in months and there am I, at Marseilles after an uneventful escape from the occupied zone with my wife. Of course, we were without any kind of 'ausweis' to do so, but she is a good trooper and we slipped through the 'line' in the wee hours of the morning helped by a peasant guide. " Our firm is editing some kind of a cheap Sunday paper here with reasonable success and we are contemplating the possibility of taking up again the idea of 'Conquêtes'. Evidently it shall not be the same pretentious scheme but it can still be a young and energetic magazine full of ideas, new in this country. Science fiction shall have its place on account of its qualities of imagination and daring. " I have only one aim: to give to our youth the magazine full of inspiration they need to buck up their morale and give them hope in better days... GHG/SWT. 68 rue de Rome, Marseilles, B. du R." (Bravo! et sentiments respectueux.

18/III/41

received which

SONO SECTION: "Larry & 'Lylda" (Farsaci): "Pardon slight delay:--I wanted B.A.S. (Bernie) (Seufert) to hear your record (andswell idea, too!) before sending it on to Miske. It's already on its way again & with a couple 'Kacti' phonograph needles I thought it would be best to enclose". Thus from Rochester NY.
Next from Cleveland O: "Received record titled SFS Meeting from Farsaci today. (16 Apr 41) JCM."--no comment. Ray J Sienkiewicz: "The voice of each one of you seemed to me to fit each person properly. That is, each Angel has the voice I imagined he or she does have. Yerke has the voice of a chubby individual, Forrie that of a genial person, Morojo that of a quiet, confident person, and all the others their proper voices. " I must tell you one other thing about the record, it is 'orange peeling'. 'Orange peeling'...is caused by the record drying up." What, the imagi-natives drying up? Impossible! Tucker: "Ackerman has mike fright.... Daugherty has it too. Only Morojo sounds natural. Somebody at the Chicon told me Morojo would make a natural teacher.....she is such a stickler for details and pronunciation. Can you not picture her teaching the 3-b class in applied rocketry? Barsoom's Thoris (O'Brien, as I remember) has an almost-masculine voice, from this end of the record. Bradbury sounded just the opposite ... oh, woo woo! Regarding the long whistle and the remark to the effect that 'that wasn't science-fictional' what happened, did Ackie show his leg?" What, & have U pull it, Pong?

Attn, Erle Korshak! Did U ever receive the record just referd to by Tuck, forward it? We have had no word of it from Tucker's turn on. The one beginning "Greetings, stfans & stfettes! This is 4e Ackerman speaking to U over station VOM!"

Attn, Jack Speer! Did U receive the LASFS Xmas Set, the large double disks, with info to forward to Henry Ackermann? 'Dublin', did U get 'em? Harry, have U heard 'em? Who has 'em now? Scott? Julie? Nadine? Hans? leslie? Ram? Art???